

From: "Wroble, Julie" <Wroble.Julie@epa.gov>  
To: "Bottcher, Helen" <Bottcher.Helen@epa.gov>  
"Francis, Richard" <Francis.Richard@epa.gov>  
"Knudsen, Laura" <Knudsen.Laura@epa.gov>  
Date: 5/12/2022 9:35:06 AM  
Subject: Fwd: Call Back from COL Helton - USACE

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Fysa

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Terada, Calvin" <Terada.Calvin@epa.gov>  
**Date:** May 11, 2022 at 5:50:26 PM PDT  
**To:** "Lynch, Kira" <lynch.kira@epa.gov>, "Wroble, Julie" <Wroble.Julie@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** "Fleming, Sheila" <fleming.sheila@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Call Back from COL Helton - USACE

Kira and Julie,

I just got off the phone with COL Helton and he explained that he talked quite extensively with his team today. While the virtual community meeting will go on, he admitted that they already have some huge lessons learned and understand why it is critical for USACE and EPA to work together on such matters. "A unified voice" is what he mentioned to me and I reaffirmed that this is the best way to chart our course. He also mentioned that he tasked Eric to reach out to Rose and as of this message, apparently he has not successfully connected yet. I shared that we will be participating in the meeting and will work to make sure that we speak in a manner that maintains our alignment that we will work together. Of course, I did share with him our disappointment on how things transpired. He did reiterate to his team the urgency to get our planning session at Bradford on the books and so we should hopefully see confirmation soon.

Please let me know how tomorrow's session goes.

Thank you!

Calvin

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Calvin J. Terada, Director  
Superfund and Emergency Management Division  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region 10  
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 155, 12-D12-1  
Seattle, WA 98101-3140  
(O) 206-553-4141  
(M) (b)(6)  
(F) 206-553-0175  
National Response Center (800) 424-8802  
(He/Him/His)

**From:** Helton, Michael D (Mike) COL USARMY CENWP (USA) <Michael.D.Helton@usace.army.mil>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 7:29 AM  
**To:** Terada, Calvin <Terada.Calvin@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] FW: Lack of Public Notice in Advance of Bradford Island, Columbia River Superfund Public Meeting Kickoff

Calvin,

Good morning. Thanks for the note. My intent for my folks is no different than what I expressed to you. I owe you a call after I have a few internal discussions.

Respectfully,  
Mike

Sent with BlackBerry Work  
([www.blackberry.com](http://www.blackberry.com))

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**From:** Terada, Calvin <Terada.Calvin@epa.gov>  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022, 10:27 PM  
**To:** Helton, Michael D (Mike) COL USARMY CENWP (USA) <Michael.D.Helton@usace.army.mil>  
**Cc:** Wells, Elizabeth R CIV USARMY CENWP (USA) <Elizabeth.R.Wells@usace.army.mil>, Lynch, Kira <lynch.kira@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] FW: Lack of Public Notice in Advance of Bradford Island, Columbia River Superfund Public Meeting Kickoff

COL Helton,

I hope that this message finds you and your family well. It is hard to believe that a month has already passed since we met and conducted our consultation with the Yakama Nation. With only a month passing, I would not normally reach out so quickly to check-in on our plan to meet, but when I received the below message, I thought it was important for me connect with you.

I received the below message thread from Julie Wroble who you may remember from Toppenish, but she is my first-line supervisor that has Bradford Island in her site portfolio. Perhaps there is misunderstanding or miscommunication, but I thought we were going to get our teams together to launch forward in a well-coordinated manner. Unfortunately, the below comments and sentiment seems to already place us at a point of a rough start. Given that one of our management objectives should include building trust and confidence with our states, tribes, and the general public related to our collective project management, I am wondering if the below comments gives us a good reason to pause activities until we can gather as a team? It seems like our first priority is get our teams together as soon as possible and so that we can layout a full set of next steps, which should include developing a robust and well vetted community engagement plan.

If we can get our unified team starting strong in a positive direction with solid support from our external partners, I believe we can create the momentum to carry us successfully forward.

v/r,

Calvin

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Calvin J. Terada, Director  
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(He/Him/His)

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**From:** Wroble, Julie <Wroble.Julie@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022 5:01 PM  
**To:** Terada, Calvin <Terada.Calvin@epa.gov>; Francis, Richard <Francis.Richard@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Lack of Public Notice in Advance of Bradford Island, Columbia River Superfund Public Meeting Kickoff

FYSA.  
I didn't see either of you on the email from Rose.

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**From:** Rose Longoria <lonr@yakamafish-nsn.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022 4:55 PM  
**To:** Knudsen, Laura <Knudsen.Laura@epa.gov>; john.l.morgan@usace.army.mil; Bottcher, Helen <Bottcher.Helen@epa.gov>; Lynch, Kira <lynch.kira@epa.gov>; Wroble, Julie <Wroble.Julie@epa.gov>; Tan, Robert <Tan.Robert@epa.gov>; Johnson, Craig J CIV USARMY CENWP (USA) <Craig.J.Johnson@usace.army.mil>; christine.m.budai@usace.army.mil; jeffrey.t.matson@usace.army.mil; Mednick, Richard <Mednick.Richard@epa.gov>; Eric Strickland <Eric.T.Stricklin@usace.army.mil>  
**Cc:** Lauren Goldberg <lauren@columbiariverkeeper.org>; Ubaldo Hernandez <ubaldo@columbiariverkeeper.org>; liv.brumfield@mail.house.gov; Keys, Jessica (Merkley) <Jessica\_Keys@merkley.senate.gov>; Stevens, Jessica (Merkley) <Jessica\_Stevens@merkley.senate.gov>; Davis Washines <wasd@yakamafish-nsn.gov>; FELDON Leah \* DEQ <leah.feldon@deq.state.or.us>; Bartlett, Heather (ECY) <heba461@ecy.wa.gov>; Hennessey, Jennifer (GOV) <jennifer.hennessey@gov.wa.gov>; jason.miner@oregon.gov; shil@yakamafish-nsn.gov; rlaw461@ecy.wa.gov; David Askman <dave@askmanlaw.com>; Tom Zeilman <tzeilman(b)(6)> Natalie Swan <swan@yakamafish-nsn.gov>; Shannon Adams <adas@yakamafish-nsn.gov>; Donella Miller <mild@yakamafish-nsn.gov>; Julie Atwood <atwj@yakamafish-nsn.gov>; David Blodgett <blod@yakamafish-nsn.gov>; Phil Rigdon <phil\_rigdon@yakama.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Lack of Public Notice in Advance of Bradford Island, Columbia River Superfund Public Meeting Kickoff

**USACE and EPA** - The United States actions to move forward with a public meeting that is poorly advertised, with no real attempt to engage the public is not only disappointing but contrary to the intent and understandings reached during the April 5, 2022 government-to-government meeting between the Corps, EPA and the Yakama Nation.

The government-to-government meeting — with USACE Colonel Helton and EPA Director Terada — was especially important as there was acknowledgement that the Bradford Island Superfund Site poses an emergency threat to tribal health and the environment. Due to this threat, the United States committed to include the Yakama Nation in all phases of the Bradford Island cleanup process, which would include advance notice and plans to inform and engage tribal member participation in the first public kickoff meeting for the Bradford Island Superfund Site.

Postponing this event to allow for proper planning, notice and engagement of the general public and tribal members is necessary and strongly recommended.

Sincerely,  
rose

--

Rose Longoria  
Regional Superfund Projects Manager

**Yakama Nation Fisheries**

PO Box 151

Toppenish, WA 98948

509-865-5121 x6365

[rose@yakamafish-nsn.gov](mailto:rose@yakamafish-nsn.gov)

On May 10, 2022, at 3:44 PM, Lauren Goldberg <[lauren@columbiariverkeeper.org](mailto:lauren@columbiariverkeeper.org)> wrote:

Laura and John:

Nice to meet you. I spoke at length with Helen Bottcher (cc'd) yesterday morning. Columbia Riverkeeper has expressed our frustration and disappointment in the Corps' approach to kicking off public engagement and outreach on the new Bradford Island Superfund Site, which includes surrounding waters of the Columbia River. Simply put, it is unacceptable. **One-week notice via a press release (shared today with an interested party list), with no prior outreach to public interest nonprofits, to engage any community, let alone multiple diverse, geographically broad communities impacted by the Corps' actions and management of the cleanup site, is untenable.** Our organization requested that the kickoff meeting be rescheduled to allow for the necessary public outreach to engage impacted anglers and community members.

We understand that the Corps will proceed with the meeting.

In so doing, the Corps provides an apt case study for styming public engagement and ignoring the principles of environmental justice in federal decisionmaking. We will leave our remarks at that for now and look forward to many years of working with EPA, Tribal Nations, the states of Washington and Oregon, and the public in holding the Corps accountable for cleaning up Bradford Island and a river treasured by many.

Respectfully,

Lauren

cc: Yakama Nation Fisheries

Senator Merkley's Office

Congressman Blumenauer's Office

Governor Brown's Office

Governor Inslee's Office

Wash. Dept. of Ecology

Oregon Dept. of Environmental Quality

**Lauren Goldberg** (she/her) | Legal & Program Director | [Columbia Riverkeeper](#) | PO Box 950 Hood River, OR 97031 | [541.965.0985](tel:541.965.0985) direct; [541.387.3030](tel:541.387.3030) office

**[Spring into Action Newsletter—Read it Now](#)**

*Join Columbia Riverkeeper's team as we spring into action to keep up the tremendous, humbling work of collectively fighting for what we love: clean water, our climate, and our communities.*

On Tue, May 10, 2022 at 9:26 AM Knudsen, Laura <[Knudsen.Laura@epa.gov](mailto:Knudsen.Laura@epa.gov)> wrote:

***Please share with your networks! You are receiving this email***

*from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency because you have expressed an interest in the Bradford Island Superfund Site. All recipients are blind copied.*

Hello! Thank you for your interest in the Bradford Island Superfund Site. As you know, EPA officially listed Bradford Island on the National Priorities List and published the decision in the ***Federal Register*** this past March.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is still the federal agency responsible for the cleanup process at Bradford Island (including community involvement). The Corps will be hosting a **virtual public meeting** this **Thursday, May 12** from **5:30-7pm (Pacific)**. Please read below for more information about:

- Communication moving forward on Bradford Island.
- More information about the Corps' May 12 virtual public meeting, including how to attend.

### **Communication Moving Forward on Bradford Island**

Moving forward, **most communication for Bradford Island will be coming from the Corps, as the lead federal agency for the site.** EPA will be overseeing and supporting the Corps with their work.

**If you have any questions moving forward** regarding the Bradford Island Superfund Site (including community involvement), please contact:

- **\*Primary Contact\* Corps Public Affairs Specialist:** John Morgan ([john.l.morgan@usace.army.mil](mailto:john.l.morgan@usace.army.mil), 503-201-0856)
- **EPA Community Involvement Coordinator:** Laura Knudsen ([knudsen.laura@epa.gov](mailto:knudsen.laura@epa.gov), call/text (b)(6) )

### **Thursday, May 12 Virtual Public Meeting on the Bradford Island Cleanup (hosted by the Corps)**

**Date:** **\*This Week!\*** Thursday, May 12, 2022

**Time:** 5:30 – 7:00pm Pacific

**Agenda and Materials:** An agenda for this Thursday's meeting and materials are listed on the [Corps' May 3 press release](#).

- **Full link to Corps' Press Release:**  
<https://www.nwp.usace.army.mil/Media/News-Releases/Article/3018709/corps-to-host-public-meeting-on-bradford-island-cleanup/>



**How do I Join the Corps' Online-Only Event?** Please enter the virtual room at [\*\*https://us02web.zoom.us/j/\(b\)\(6\)\*\*](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/(b)(6))

- *If prompted, please enter **Meeting ID** (b)(6)*
- *If clicking the link above does not work or you have any audio issues, please feel free to join the meeting on the phone by using the following information:*
- **Call Number:** (b)(6) | **Code:** (b)(6)
- *Or use One tap mobile: +*(b)(6) *#*
- **Having problems signing in?** Please contact John Morgan at (b)(6)
- **Test your system and connections online in advance** at [\*\*https://zoom.us/test\*\*](https://zoom.us/test) to ensure that you will be able to join online!

**Questions about the Corps' May 12 Public Meeting?** Questions about this public meeting may be directed to the Corps' Bradford Island Public Comment Inbox:

[\*\*bradfordislandpubliccommentinbox@usace.army.mil\*\*](mailto:bradfordislandpubliccommentinbox@usace.army.mil)

Thank you! For more information on the Bradford Island Superfund Site, please visit:

**USACE Bradford Island Website** at [\*\*www.nwp.usace.army.mil/bonneville/bradford-island/\*\*](http://www.nwp.usace.army.mil/bonneville/bradford-island/)

**EPA's Bradford Island Superfund Site** webpage at [\*\*www.epa.gov/superfund/bradford-island\*\*](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/bradford-island)

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**Lauren Goldberg** (she/her) | Legal & Program Director | [\*\*Columbia Riverkeeper\*\*](#) | PO Box 950 Hood River, OR 97031 | [\*\*541.965.0985\*\*](tel:541.965.0985) direct; [\*\*541.387.3030\*\*](tel:541.387.3030) office

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